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AN ACT to define and settle the duties of the levy court of the county of Washington, District of Columbia, in regard to roads, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Congress assembled, That the levy court of the county of Washington, District of Columbia, shall hereafter consist of nine members, to be appointed by the President of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, who shall hold their offices for the term of three years. But of the members to be first appointed one-third shall be appointed and hold their offices for one year, or until the thirty-first day of December, and one-third for two years; and one-third for three years, or until the thirty-first day of December, eighteen hundred and sixty-four; and one-third for three years, or until the thirty-first of December, eighteen hundred and sixty-five. The terms of the members shall commence on the first day of January, and end on the thirty-first day of December; and it shall be the duty of the President to nominate members, to fill the places of those whose term is about to expire, as early as the fifteenth day of December; and he may re-nominate, and re-appoint by his order, if duly accounted proper to do so. Of the nine members of the court, five shall be residents of the county, three of the city of Washington, and one of the city of Georgetown. In case of vacancies happening, the President may fill the same, and the members so filled; and the term of the person appointed to fill any vacancy shall expire when the term of him in whose place he is appointed would have expired.

And be it further enacted, That every person appointed as a member of the levy court shall, before he enters on his duties, take an oath faithfully to discharge the duties of the office, and also to support the Constitution of the United States; and he shall also take the oath of allegiance to the United States, and shall receive eighteen hundred and sixty-two. The members of said court shall hereafter be entitled to receive four dollars a day, each, for every day they shall attend a sitting of the court, and not absent themselves without leave of absence. And the sum of four dollars for every day they shall serve on a committee, to be paid by the county treasurer upon the certificate of the president of said court.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That the levy court shall have jurisdiction of all roads and bridges, and the exclusive jurisdiction over all the roads and bridges in said county, except such roads and bridges as belong to and are under the care of the United States. And the said court shall have jurisdiction of all bridges in said county.

First. To lay out, alter, repair, discontinue and regulate any of the public roads and highways within said county, and at any time hereafter to inquire and to decide whether any road in said county held by any corporation or person, has been, is, or is about to be, abandoned, and if so, the condition required by the charter thereof, and if not, to take legal proceedings to acquire possession of the same as other county roads.

Second. To levy and collect taxes for that purpose upon the property of the owners of the county, of the age of twenty-one years and over; those having no property to be assessed to labor.

Third. To appoint, annually, and take bond from any citizen residing in said county, and also to appoint a collector of taxes, who shall have power to collect all the taxes (not to be paid in kind) levied by said court, and to proceed to collect the same, in such manner and within such period of time as the court may direct.

Fourth. To appoint, annually, a general superintendent of roads and such number of superintendents of roads as they may deem expedient; to remove them, as well as the clerk and treasurer of the court, if they are found to be inefficient, if there is sufficient cause, or the public interest requires it.

Fifth. To cause bridges to be erected whenever necessary or convenient, and to keep all bridges in good repair.

Sixth. To levy, from time to time, the pay of the clerk, treasurer, tax collector, superintendent and supervisors of roads, and the rates per day or hour to be paid for labor to be performed by men or teams when employed upon roads and bridges.

Seventh. To levy a tax upon all lands and other real or personal property, and to set a duty, at a rate not exceeding one dollar in the hundred dollars of their valuation, and also a tax of not exceeding one dollar each on dogs.

Eighth. To require reports or the rendition of accounts from the collector of taxes, the treasurer, clerk, surveyor, and from any other officer, whenever they shall deem it expedient and proper. Also, reports from supervisors as to the condition of the roads and bridges in their respective districts, and estimates of the probable amount that will be required to put and keep the same in good repair for the ensuing year.

Ninth. To lay out private roads, to prevent trespassing upon or obstructing or injuring any road or trees therein, or bridge, in said county, and to empower and require the tax collector the same in the same manner as other fines are now collected, and to exercise a general police power over the same, and to collect said county.

Tenth. To lay out private roads.

Eleventh. To provide for the maintenance and support of the poor to erect a "poor house" for that purpose, if deemed by said court necessary and proper; and, in addition to the tax other than herein authorized, to levy and collect a tax on the lands and property in said county to pay for the same. The powers herein given are to apply only to that portion of the county not included within the corporate bounds of Wauke-

Sec. 4. And be further enacted, That the said supervisors shall authorize any portion, not exceeding three-fourths of the tax levied for road and bridge purposes, to be paid in labor, of men, horses, mules, oxen, the use of ploughs, carts or wagons, at rates per day or hour, for each to be fixed by said court. But in case any assessor shall have no visible property, and shall be unable to collect the same, he may employ any man or labor upon roads and bridges shall be performed at such times and places as the superintendent of roads shall direct, and under his supervision, or that of the supervisor of the road, and such other person as may be appointed to superintend the same, and he shall be authorized to send a superintendent to notify all persons liable to pay road tax or to labor on roads of the time and place, when and where, they must appear to perform such labor, at least one week before the day they are required to appear. And he may employ any man or horse, mule, ox, or may have a cart or wagon, to convey an able-bodied hand with such team, cart or wagon, to be used in repairing or making roads or bridges; such notice to be given personally or in writing left at the residence of the individual notified. If the person so notified shall be absent at the time he is to appear or send an able-bodied notified, or shall not conform to the directions of the person having charge of the work, or shall not labor diligently, in the last case he shall be dismissed, and in either case shall pay the whole amount of his road tax or of his cart or wagon tax, as the case may be thereon. For the convenience of the tax collector and for the superintendent of roads, it shall be the duty of all tax payers who desire to work on roads, to appear at the place where the roads are to be repaired, on the first Monday of April of each year, to give notice to the superintendent of roads, that they desire to

But in case any one shall fail to perform the law required of him, the tax collector shall, upon being notified thereof, collect the said tax in full with twenty per centum added.

Sec. 5. And be it further enacted, That it shall be the duty of the superintendent and supervisors of roads to have at least three-fourths of the work to be done on them during the year performed as early as the middle of July; and

(Continued on fourth page.)

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